

CHAPTER 161. INTRODUCTION TO PART 145 REPAIR STATIONS

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND

1. PURPOSE. This chapter defines Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 145 Repair Stations and their capabilities. It also defines and describes air agency certificates and operations specifications.

3. GENERAL. Definitions:

A. Domestic Repair Station: A facility, located in the U.S., that performs maintenance and/or alterations on airframes, powerplants, propellers, and/or appliances.

B. Foreign Repair Station: A certificated facility, located outside of the U.S., that performs maintenance and/or alterations on airframes, powerplants, propellers, and/or appliances for U.S.-registered aircraft.

C. Satellite Repair Station: An additional certificated facility or location of a domestic parent facility.

D. Manufacturer's Maintenance Facility (MMF): A manufacturer of aircraft, aircraft engines, propellers, appliances, and/or parts certificated as a repair station with limited ratings.

E. Air Agency Certificate: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Form 8000-4, Air Agency Certificate, is the authority granted by the FAA for a repair station to conduct business. The certificate states the following information:

- (1) Repair station number
- (2) What the repair station's ratings are to include:
 - Class ratings
 - Limited ratings
 - Limited specialized service ratings

(3) The location and name of the repair station

(4) The expiration date, as applicable

F. Operations Specifications: Operations specifications are issued by the FAA to indicate the limitations to the ratings as specified on the air agency certificate.

G. Class Ratings: Ratings issued if the repair station can prove the capability to maintain a representative number of products under this rating. A class rating should not be issued and then restricted to a specific product. For such a case, a limited rating should be issued.

H. Limited Ratings: Ratings issued to repair stations for the performance of maintenance on particular makes and models of airframes, powerplants, propellers, radios, instruments, accessories, and/or parts.

I. Limited Specialized Service Ratings: Ratings issued for a special maintenance function when the function is performed in accordance with a specification or data acceptable to the Administrator. The operations specifications must include the specifications or data used by the repair station to perform that service in accordance with 14 CFR part 145, § 145.33(C).

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SECTION 2. PROCEDURES

1. COORDINATION. Issuing or amending operations specifications may affect other specialties. Operations specifications should be reviewed by airworthiness maintenance and avionics inspectors to determine if their areas are affected. This coordination may reveal the need for further communication with the operator or other FAA personnel.

3. PREPARATION. Air agency certificates and operations specifications are legal documents. Language should clearly specify the authorizations, ratings, and/or limitations being approved. When filling out these forms, there should not be any erasures, strikeouts, or typographical errors.

A. Air Agency Certificates. The certificate will include the following information:

(1) Domestic Repair Stations.

(a) After “Number,” insert the certificate number assigned to the facility. This will be in accordance with the current air agency numbering system.

(b) Under “This certificate is issued to,” insert the official name of applicant's business. This must be the same as shown on the application form.

(c) Under “whose business address is,” insert the address/location of the applicant's business. This must be the same as shown on the application form.

(d) After “to operate an approved,” insert the words “repair station.”

(e) Under “with the following ratings:” insert the ratings issued. The ratings must be listed by the general category, such as airframe, powerplant, radio, etc.

- If a repair station is issued a limited rating, then it must be listed as such on the certificate, e.g., limited radio.
- When ratings are added or amended, the date of each issuance will be shown in parenthesis following the added or amended rating.

(f) After “shall continue in effect,” insert the word “indefinitely.”

(g) Under “Date issued:” insert the issuance date of the certificate. This will be the date of original certification.

(h) Under “By direction of the Administrator,” insert the signature of the office manager and office identifier.

(2) Foreign Repair Stations.

(a) After “Number,” insert the certificate number assigned to the facility. This will be in accordance with the current air agency numbering system.

(b) Under “This certificate is issued to” insert the official name of applicant's business. This must be the same as shown on the application form.

(c) Under “whose business address is,” insert the address/location of the applicant's business. This must be the same as shown on the application form.

(d) After “to operate an approved,” insert the words “repair station.”

(e) Under “with the following ratings:” insert the ratings issued. The ratings must be listed in the broad sense, such as airframe, powerplant, radio, etc.

- If a repair station is issued a limited rating, then it must be listed as such on the certificate, e.g., limited radio.
- When ratings are added or amended, the date of each issuance will be shown in parenthesis following the added or amended rating.

(f) Where the certificate states “shall continue in effect,” insert the date of expiration (see vol. 2, ch. 162, section 1.)

(g) Under “Date issued:” insert the issuance date of the certificate. This will be the date of original certification.

(h) Under “By direction of the Administrator,” insert the signature of the office manager.

(i) At the very bottom of the page, the last line referring to “any alteration of the certificate” will be stricken in its entirety.

B. Operations Specifications.

(1) Following “The rating(s) set forth on Air Agency Certificate Number,” insert the air agency certificate number from the respective certificate.

(2) Following “is/are limited to the following,” “insert, as applicable:

- Class ratings
- Limited ratings, to include makes, models, or parts
- Limited rating for specialized services, to include the specification used
- Air carrier's geographic authorization, (foreign certificate holders only)

(3) Following “Delegated authorities,” insert “none.”

(4) Under “Date issued or revised,” insert the date the inspection was satisfactorily completed.

(5) Under “For the Administrator,” insert the signature block of the assigned inspector.

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SECTION 3. EVALUATING A PART 145 FOREIGN REPAIR STATION UNDER CONTRACT TO A U.S. CARRIER AT A LOCATION OTHER THAN THE REPAIR STATION FACILITY

1. GENERAL.

A. U.S. air carriers have encountered a need for maintenance at stations where the frequency and scope of that maintenance does not warrant staffing and equipping the station for its accomplishment. This situation may be further complicated by prohibition against U.S. mechanics working in foreign countries by the government of those countries.

B. In an effort to provide those services while reducing the administrative effort of the FAA and industry, procedures were developed to certificate these activities for

specific contracted air carriers. This certificate may be issued to a foreign air carrier, manufacturer, or other maintenance organization in accordance with part 145, subpart C.

C. If similar work is already being done at a remote location, on-like equipment, and meets the conditions for contractual work as described in this chapter, the existing operations specifications can be issued/amended without further demonstration of ability or submittal of an application.